

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
(Standing Committee of Berkeley County Council)

Chairman: Mr. Dennis Fish, District No. 5

A **meeting** of the **COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES**, Standing Committee of Berkeley County Council, was held on **Monday March 8, 2010**, at 6:45 p.m., in the Assembly Room, Berkeley County Administration Building, 1003 Highway 52, Moncks Corner, South Carolina.

PRESENT: Acting Chairman Cathy Davis, District No. 4; Committee Member Phillip Farley, District No. 1; Committee Member Timothy J. Callanan, District No. 2; Committee Member Robert O. Call, Jr., District No. 3; Committee Member Jack H. Schurlknight, District No. 6; Committee Member Caldwell Pinckney, Jr., District No. 7; Committee Member Steve C. Davis, District No. 8; Mr. Daniel W. Davis, Supervisor, ex officio; Nicole Scott Ewing, County Attorney; and Barbara B. Austin, Clerk to County Council. Chairman Dennis Fish, Council District No. 5 was excused.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the electronic and print media were duly notified.

Acting Chairman C. Davis called the meeting to order and asked for approval of minutes from a meeting of the Committee on Human Services held on January 25, 2010.

Supervisor Dan Davis stated, "Madam Chairman? I just wanted to ask a question about the minutes where it talks about the paraphrase during periods of discussion and presentation, minutes are typically condensed and paraphrased. Is that.....Well, I thought we were doing the verbatim minutes? But that's in there because these were not done verbatim, ok. I was just curious about that because I thought we, I thought they were now going to be verbatim and....on all of the minutes."

Ms. Austin stated, "I had been instructed that we were to go back to doing what was described as appropriate minutes where debate was sometimes paraphrased and not do every set of minutes verbatim."

Supervisor D. Davis, "Oh, I wasn't aware. OK, I'm sorry."

Committee Member S. Davis stated, "I thought we had a discussion on this and I think I used as an analogy, what they do in the court system where if we got the mechanism to record, then we need to record. This don't have anything to do with paraphrasing, but you know, paraphrasing can sometime can be misinterpreted, but when someone is speaking verbatim, then the record speaks for itself. I think this is the same argument I used the last time, so I would hope that all of our records, if possible, be verbatim. That way there is not dispute as to any injection from no third party as to what some individual may or may not have said. The record will speak for itself. I hope that is the procedure we have in place."

Committee Member Pinckney stated, "Let me say something in regards to that. You may be able to hold me accountable for that because when it first came out verbatim I conferred with the Clerk of Council, she was not instructed to do that."

Committee Member S. Davis, "I thought we had a full discussion, we had agreed as a Council for verbatim. I thought we had....."

Committee Member Pinckney stated, "No, it was discussed, but we never agreed on it to my memory. Now, if I am wrong, correct me. So, since there was....it was so much verbiage involved in it, so I called Ms. Austin and I asked her was she instructed to do that. She said no, she took it upon herself. So at that time, I told her to reflect back to what we were doing all the time. So, if any man is to be held accountable for that, then that would be me, Caldwell Pinckney. Because we never decided at full Council to do that. Not to my recollection. Now, if I am wrong, I stand to be corrected."

Ms. Austin stated, "Mr. Chairman? If I may say, it's easier for us to do verbatim. There is no choice about what we put in and what we leave out. We don't....when we paraphrase it is...it's not changing what is said in any manner, but if you want everything verbatim, please let us know."

Committee Member Pinckney stated, "My only thing here is that if what we are going to do, then we need to decide on that collectively and not having one or two people wanting it one way and one or two wanting it another way. And that is the only thing that I am saying. I have no preference one way or the other, but I just think that we need to be consistent in whatever we do here on Council."

Committee Member Farley stated, "Mr. Chairman?"

Acting Chairman C. Davis replied, "Yes, Mr. Farley"

Committee Member Farley stated, "If it is easier for our staff to go verbatim, then I make a motion to go verbatim."

Committee Member S. Davis stated, "And I second that."

Ms. Ewing stated, "Mr. Farley, I assume, but just for the record, that would be for both Committee and full Council?"

Committee Member Farley stated, "I think so. All meetings."

Committee Member S. Davis stated, "If you speak, put it on the record."

Committee Member Callanan stated, "Mr. Chairman? Madam Chairman, I'm sorry. At what point are we starting this?"

Committee Member S. Davis stated, "Tonight"

Committee Member Callanan stated, "For this nights' meetings, from this nights' meeting, they will be verbatim. And anything prior to that, unless its for whatever reason was, will be paraphrased? Correct?"

Committee Member S. Davis stated, "I can agree with that."

Acting Chairman C. Davis stated, "Ok, so I have a motion and a second as far as the verbatim minutes beginning with this night's meetings?"

Committee Member Callanan stated, "Yes"

Acting Chairman C. Davis stated, "All in favor? (Ayes) Opposed? (No Response) The motion carries."

It was moved by Committee Member Callanan and seconded by Committee Member Farley to **approve the minutes.**

I've got a motion and a second on the minutes...approval of the minutes from January 25th? All in favor? (Ayes) Opposed? (No Response) The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee. The minutes stand approved as presented."

A. Consideration of a Resolution to appoint and commission Code Enforcement Officers for the proper security, general welfare and convenience of Berkeley County.

Acting Chairman C. Davis stated, "Mr. Brewer?"

Mr. Ronald Brewer, Chief Building Officer, stated, "Yes madam, thank you. If you recall a couple of months ago, you should have before you tonight, two resolutions. This first one has to do with three officers that have been working for the County for several years, but if you recall a couple of months ago when we made the.....made a new Animal Control Officer who had replaced somebody who had retired. When we went looking for the documentation of some past Animal Control Officers so that we could duplicate the forms and I couldn't find anything where there was any resolution that was passed by Council. These three officers say that they remember getting sworn in one time, but there was no paperwork. So we decided that we needed to make it official. So Mr. Nutter, Mr. Edwards and Mr. Waters, that is what I am here before you tonight to ask that the resolution be passed, to sign a resolution to give the County Supervisor the authority to swear in, re-swear in these individuals."

Committee Member S. Davis stated, "Madam Chairman, these individuals already been employment?"

Mr. Brewer replied, "Oh, yes sir. These have been employed with us for some time now. We just couldn't find any documentation, so I guess we are just trying to dot all of our i's and cross all of our t's."

It was moved by Committee Member Farley and seconded by Committee Member Call to **approve consideration of a Resolution to appoint and commission Code Enforcement Officers** for the proper security, general welfare and convenience of Berkeley County.

Acting Chairman C. Davis stated, "I have a motion and a second. Is there any more discussion? All in favor, say Aye (Ayes) Opposed, nay? (No response) Motion carries."

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Committee Member Schurlknight stated, "I move for adjournment."

Committee Member S. Davis stated, "No, there is another issue."

Committee Member Farley stated, "We got another lady."

B. Consideration of a Resolution to Appoint and Commission an additional **Code Enforcement Officer** for the proper security, general welfare, and convenience of Berkeley County.

Mr. Brewer stated, "This also is an Animal Control Officer. This is, our paper says an additional one, but it is no cost to the County. This person replaces Mr. James Hawkins that retired at the end of January. Ms. Beth Sellars has been hired and we would like the same thing as we talked about before, a resolution passed so that Mr. Davis can swear that person in."

Committee Member S. Davis stated, "I was approached by some concerned citizens telling us that government is running rampant growing. And their concern was one of the same issue about this securement of this code enforcer. Is the funds already existing in the budget?"

Mr. Brewer replied, "Yes sir. There is no additional cost."

Committee Member S. Davis stated, "Ok. Do the Code Enforcers generate funds to the County for people that violate?"

Mr. Brewer replied, "Well, they go through the courts and if the courts fine them, yes, it generates money there for the courts system and also for our general fund as well."

Committee Member S. Davis inquired, "Is the fund shared with the State or is the fund primarily put into the general fund of Berkeley County coffers?"

Mr. Brewer replied, "I can't answer that."

Ms. Ewing stated, "It is split, but I don't know the breakdown. I would have to pull the statute and look at it. But I can get that information for you, Mr. Davis."

Committee Member S. Davis stated, "I just want to make sure these citizens understand that have this concern and I compliment them. That if it's a position that actually pays for itself and then it is useful and necessary and there is no new additional employee being added, because I think we still have a bar for that to take place anyway. This was a pre-existing position, my understanding."

Mr. Brewer stated, "Correct, yes sir, it was. It replaces an individual who retired at the end of January. And again, this is an Animal Control division right here."

Committee Member S. Davis replied, "Ok, thank you."

It was moved by Committee Member Farley and seconded by Committee Member Schurlknight to **approve consideration** of a **Resolution to** appoint and commission an additional **Code Enforcement Officer** for the proper security, general welfare and convenience of Berkeley County.

Acting Chairman C. Davis inquired, "Is there any more discussion? I have a motion and a second. All in favor? (Ayes) Opposed? (No Response) Motion carries."

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

It was moved by Committee Member Callanan and seconded by Committee Member S. Davis to **adjourn** the Committee on Human Services meeting. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

The meeting ended at 6:55 pm.

April 12, 2010

Date Approved

ADDENDUM

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES (Standing Committee of Berkeley County Council)

Chairman: Mr. Dennis Fish, District No. 5

Members: Mr. Phillip Farley, District No. 1
Mr. Timothy J. Callanan, District No. 2
Mr. Robert O. Call, Jr., District No. 3
Mrs. Cathy Davis, District No. 4
Mr. Jack H. Schurlknight, District No. 6
Mr. Caldwell Pinckney, Jr., District No. 7
Mr. Steve C. Davis, District No. 8
Mr. Daniel W. Davis, Supervisor, ex officio

A **meeting** of the **COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES**, Standing Committee of Berkeley County Council, will be held following the meetings of the Committees on Water and Sanitation, Justice and Public Safety, Planning and Development, Public Works and Purchasing, and Land Use on **Monday March 8, 2010**, at **6:00 p.m.**, in the Assembly Room, Berkeley County Administration Building, 1003 Highway 52, Moncks Corner, South Carolina.

AGENDA

ADD:

B. Consideration of a Resolution to Appoint and Commission an additional **Code Enforcement Officer** for the proper security, general welfare, and convenience of Berkeley County.

March 5, 2010
S/Barbara B. Austin, CCC
Clerk of County Council

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AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 25, 2010

A. Consideration of a Resolution to appoint and commission Code Enforcement Officers for the proper security, general welfare and convenience of Berkeley County.

March 3, 2010
S/Barbara B. Austin, CCC
Clerk of County Council